

July 7, 2008

Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)

**Mendocino County Department of Transportation,
East Road, MP 2.43 Project
(WDID# 1B08054WNME)**

Sonoma County

On March 27, 2008, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Larry Alexander, on behalf of Mendocino County Department of Transportation requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the East Road, MP 2.43 Project located in Mendocino County. The proposed Project causes permanent impacts to 0.006 acres of unnamed ephemeral stream within the Forsythe Creek HSA Hydrologic Sub Unit No. 114.33.

The proposed Project is located at M.P. 2.43 East Road, approximately 1 mile north of Redwood Valley, Mendocino County, California. The latitude and longitude is 39.16385°N and -123.12252°W. The purpose of the Project is to repair erosion caused by the Russian River in a heavy storm event and to prevent future damage. The erosion is undermining a metal beam guardrail (MBGR) and threatening a 30' length of road.

The Project will excavate a 50'L x 8'W x 4'D trench and damaged 24" diameter corrugated metal pipe (CMP) culvert (55 cubic yards (CY)). Install a 24" diameter x 60' long high density polyethylene (HDPE) culvert and backfill trench with reclaimed material. Resurface 30'L x 10'W area with 1' thick (11 CY) aggregate base and 0.3' thick (3 CY) Asphalt Concrete paving. Place 10'L x 6'W x 1.5'T (3 CY) rip-rap energy dissipater below outfall. Line existing ditch to edge of bluff with 40'L x 5'W x 1'T layer of rip-rap lining (8 CY). Repair MBGR posts. Construction will be confined to the existing footprint.

This Project is designed to be self mitigating as the bank stabilization will result in a reduction of erosion and sedimentation and improvements in water quality conditions in the Russian River. Additionally, a 20-30 foot wall of sediment with the potential of collapse into the West Fork of the Russian River will no longer be undermined by down-cutting. Curtailing the down-cutting will likely prevent or forestall the failure and collapse of this sediment wall into the River. Erosion control measures will be utilized during construction to avoid impacts to the adjacent waterway and downstream habitat.

At a minimum, the following construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be incorporated into the final project plans in order to reduce and control soil erosion: work in and around waterways will be conducted during the dry season (May 15th to October 15th); installation of construction barrier fencing to preclude equipment entry into sensitive areas; installation of silt fencing or fiber rolls to prevent sediment loss from immediate work area; topsoil salvage and reapplication; and seeding and mulching.

Additionally, all required BMPs shall be on-site and ready for timely deployment, before start of construction activities.

The Mendocino County Department of Transportation, East Road, M.P. 2.43 Project is scheduled to be under construction and completed during the dry season of 2008 or 2009. The estimated duration of construction is between one and two weeks. Staff is proposing to regulate this Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653, or at sbargsten@waterboards.ca.gov, or Brian Lindell at (707) 576-6732, blindell@waterboards.ca.gov, within 21 days of posting of this notice.

This is a brief summary of this Project; all related documents and comments received are on file and may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Blvd., Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.